

Teacher of the Year Program Mission

The mission of the Teacher of the Year program is to honor and recognize excellence in teaching, support continued learning for all educators and highlight the importance and impact of the profession. Selecting a Teacher of the Year celebrates the thousands of outstanding professional educators in Florida schools.

The goals of the Florida Teacher of the Year program are to:

- Enhance the stature of teachers and the teaching profession.
- Promote the importance of quality education and teaching for our future.
- Inspire and attract talented people to become teachers.
- Provide information regarding Florida's scholarship and loan programs related to teaching.
- Promote the teaching profession within community and business groups.
- Provide information to retired military personnel and other individuals who might consider teaching as a second career.

The Teacher of the Year will perform the following duties:

- Work with and represent the Department of Education, as needed.
- Work with and encourage the efforts of school and district teachers of the year.
- Support the activities of the Florida Future Educators of America Program.
- Represent Florida teachers at business, trade, education and other conferences and meetings.
- Promote the teaching profession in other ways related to the teaching responsibilities,

Eligibility Requirements

The following requirements must be met when nominating a candidate for the 2025 Florida Department of Education Teacher of the Year:

- Each district and/or participating institution may nominate only one teacher.
- Teacy

Submission Procedures

Application Checklist:

The application is comprised of the following:

- Instructional Lesson Video
- Resume
- Writing Prompt Responses
- Christa McAuliffe Reflection Video
- Lesson Plan
- Letters of Recommendation
- Superintendent Nomination Letter
- [W-9 Form](#)
- Professional Headshot

Note: Before accessing the online application, please prepare the components listed above.

Guidelines for Submission

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Sign in



Writing Prompt Responses:

Nominee's responses to the following five **writing prompts** will be entered into the online application. We recommend that the nominee draft the responses prior to beginning the online application.

Writing Prompts:

1. What inspires you as an educator? *(250 word limit)*
2. Describe the strongest objectively verifiable evidence available that illustrates your success at achieving meaningful learning outcomes for **all** of your students. Using data, formal/informal and short/long term, how are your students performing when they leave your classroom versus when they entered it? *(500 word limit)*
- 3.

- The recommended video length is between 1 – 2 minutes and must not exceed 2 minutes.

Step 3 – Record and review the reflection video. In order for a reviewer to have sufficient information to perform an evaluation, please ensure the focus of the video is on the teacher and there is clear audio of the teacher speaking.

Note that the reflection video must not exceed two minutes and cannot be edited in any way before submission. The recording must be continuous and unedited. If the recording appears to have been edited, the entire application will not be scored.

Step 4 – Submit the reflection video via the YouTube link in the online application. Ensure the video is **unsubscribed and unlisted** on the privacy settings. Directions for uploading the reflection video to YouTube are included in the Lesson Video instructions on page 4. The nominee may also work with the school and/or district.

- The confirmation page will be uploaded into the online application.
- **Professional Headshot:**

A professional headshot of the nominee must be included as a JPEG file, 1000x1025 pixel minimum. The nominee's headshot will be uploaded into the online application. Please name this file "*District Name, Nominee Last Name, Headshot.*"

Online Application Submission

Please have the following components prepared:

- Instructional Lesson Video
- Resume
- Writing Prompt Responses
- Christa McAuliffe Reflection Video
- Lesson Plan
- Letters of Recommendation
- Superintendent Nomination Letter
- [W-9 Form](#)
- Professional Headshot

Once the components listed above are prepared, please access the online application clicking [2025 Florida Teacher of the Year Application](#).

The Florida Department of Education's selection committee will consider and review only the required materials, thus additional materials shall not be submitted with the application.

Please contact the department via email at edrecognition@fldoe.org with any questions regarding the

Sample Teacher of the Year Score Calculation

Instructional Lesson Video Score: 56/64

Application Score: 68/78

Total Score: $(56/64)(0.5) + (68/78)(0.5) = 0.87$